

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

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OFFICE OF SOLID WASTE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Dr. Rafael Moure-Eraso, Ph.D., CIH Chairperson and CEO U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board 2175 K Street, NW, Suite 650 Washington, DC 20037-1809

Dear Dr. Moure-Eraso:

Thank you for your letter of February 18, 2011, to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Lisa Jackson, expressing your concern over the restart of the methyl isocyanate (MIC) production unit at the Bayer CropScience facility in Institute, West Virginia, and encouraging EPA to immediately conduct a comprehensive Risk Management Program (RMP) inspection of the Bayer complex.

However, I understand that after you wrote, Bayer CropScience announced that it no longer intends to restart the MIC unit, and will in fact begin dismantling it. This seems to overtake the need for the inspection that you identified, but if we have misunderstood, please let us know.

To improve efforts, our staff could meet and EPA can clarify the purpose of EPA's RMP. If CSB would like, CSB staff may contact James Belke at 202-564-8023.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Mathy Stanislaus

Assistant Administrator